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FOR THE KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY - 3RD EDITION, EPC-TKS 2015

# When Education Meets Psychology: Introduction to the

## EPC-TKS 2015 Proceedings

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### Abstract

This presentation introduces the Proceedings of the International Conference *Education and Psychology Challenges - Teachers for the Knowledge Society* – 3rd Edition (EPC-TKS 2015), which was held in Ploiesti, Romania, between May 8 - 10, 2015.

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### Preface

When Education meets Psychology, many changes are possible: we can better understand learning styles, teaching styles, and thinking styles. We can better understand how the mind works and how to bring this knowledge into teaching, in order to optimize the learning of various domains and to develop values and attitudes connected to these domains. The new edition of the International Conference EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY CHALLENGES – TEACHERS FOR THE KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY (EPC-TKS) was held in The Palace of Culture of Ploiești, Romania between 8th and 10th of May, 2015. The event was organized by the International Society for Applied Psychology (ISAPSY), the Education Department of Petroleum-Gas University of Ploiesti, the Culture Center of Prahova County and The Institute for the Development of Educational Assessment, and has

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brought together experts, policy makers, practitioners and researchers in education and psychology, in an endeavour to build new understandings and to open the scene for a diversity of opinions, visions, research results, and theoretical approaches.

The conference intended topics were: Curriculum, Assessment, ICT-based Solutions for Education, Learning Theories, Effective Policies and Teaching Practices, Challenges in contemporary education, School Counselling, Educational Psychology, Applied Psychology, Psychological Counselling, New Approaches in Psychology. The suggested topics have been partially reorganized according to the submitted papers, in order to allow presentation of thorough research, fruitful debate and opportunities for interaction among professionals with trans-disciplinary interests. We thank the presenters for their willingness to participate and to share their ideas with us.

The plenary speakers have raised interesting ideas to give us food for thought. Dr. Viorel Nicolescu - Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Bucharest University, and Faculty of Letters and Science, Petroleum-Gas University of Ploiesti, made a plea for bringing values consistently into teaching. "What I believe" was a superb demonstration of eloquence, sensibility and deep understanding of the pedagogy of knowledge. His special 'stories' brought a vivid emotion among the audience and demonstrated that a richness of ideas can make a high-quality show beyond any use of technology for presentation.

From a more technical perspective, Dr. Dan Stoicescu - Director of Institutional Research at Cecil College, Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland, USA, made an interesting bridge between "Education and Knowledge" by presenting concrete ways in which research programs and education programs could be managed in order to interact successfully at the university level.

Because we see our conference as an important step in preparing teachers for the knowledge society, we invited as plenary speaker Dr. Pieter de Vries – expert of Capacity building for Open and Online Education in Systems Engineering Department Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management, Delft University of Technology, Delft, The Netherlands. He explained "Who is the Learner in the DelftX Engineering MOOCs?", moving the audience far beyond a project presentation, into the technology of the learning in the near future in a dynamic, global, and open society.

We thank the plenary speakers for their exceptional presentations and for the context created for profitable exchange of ideas. We have special thanks to all the reviewers who worked hard in order to assure the conference scientific quality, to the members of the international Scientific Committee, to the members of the Organizing Committee, and to the technical team. Special thanks go also to the students who have been involved in the conference in an active process of learning by doing.

Last but not least, the conference days have been coloured with a plus of beauty by short but well-chosen artistic performances: popular dances by "Perinita" Folkloric Ensemble and the fantastic music played by "I.C. Danielescu" Choir.

We would like to thank to our hosts from the Culture Center of Prahova County, and to all those who contributed in every way to make the conference an interdisciplinary cultural event.

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